

Frequently Asked Questions
Informational Webinar on Rule Changes and the Impact to CACFP Participation
Held on October 15, 2015

Q 1: What are the rule changes for Group Day Care Homes?

A 1: The pending rule changes for Group Day Care Homes include changes to the license capacity and elimination of the facility type. Effective January 1, 2016, “group day care home” as a facility type will be eliminated. All former group day care homes will be considered child care learning centers with an allowed license capacity of 7 or more children in care regardless of relationship to the licensed Provider.

Q 2: Can Day Care Home Sponsors apply to become Administrative Sponsors? How long is the application process? What are the requirements?

A 2: Day Care Home Sponsors can apply to become Administrative Sponsors. There are separate training and application requirements. Training requirements include the two-day CACFP Orientation and Program training and the one-day Sponsor Orientation and Program training. Upon completion of training, access to complete the application will be granted. Applications should be submitted within 30 days to ensure timely review.

DECAL’s application staff is required to provide written technical assistance within 15 days of receipt of the application. Federal regulations require state agencies to review and approve or deny applications within 30 days of receipt of a complete application.

Q 3: With the changes to the child care rule book, are Day Care Homes able to continue to care for up to 12 children?

A 3: The license capacity provisions have not changed for family day care homes. In accordance with CACFP state policy #12, Family Day Care Homes are allowed to have a maximum of 12 children in care under the age 13 with up to six (6) children for pay and six (6) children in care for no pay.

Q 4: What is the CACFP definition for Day Care Homes?

A 4: CACFP regulations 7 CFR 226.2 define Day Care Homes as *“an organized nonresidential child care program for children enrolled in a private home, licensed or approved as a family or group day care home, and under the auspices of a sponsoring organization”*.



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Q 5: What do you mean “private” home?

A 5: For the purposes of participating in CACFP, “private home” is defined as *“the private, personal residence of the business entity/provider in which nonresidential childcare services are provided”*. The private home must be occupied by the person that is licensed to operate the child care learning center.

Q 6: If the Group Day Care home is on the Provider’s private property, does this meet the definition of day care home?

A 6: No. To meet the day care home definition, the child care facility (space where care is provided) must be located in the private residence (living space) of the person that was granted the license. The child care facility cannot be detached from the private living space.

Q 7: Can a Group Day Care home that is operated in the personal home of the licensed provider and participates in CACFP in agreement with a Day Care Home Sponsor continue with the Day Care Home Sponsor after January 1, 2016?

A 7: Yes. After the rule changes and the Group Day Care home is licensed as a child care learning center, it can continue to participate in CACFP in agreement with a Day Care Home sponsor if child care services are provided in the private residence of the person the license is granted to.

Q 8: Will those former Group Day Care homes that operate in space not privately owned and occupied by the licensed provider have to meet current CACFP center eligibility requirements by April 30th in order to continue participating in CACFP?

A 8: Yes. All Family and Group Day Care homes that are impacted by the day care home definition will need to meet CACFP eligibility requirements by April 30th in order to continue participating in CACFP.

Q 9: Will DECAL “grandfather/mother” Family/Group Day Care Homes that do not meet the day care home definition, so that they can continue participating in CACFP after April 30th.

A 9: No. DECAL will not “grandfather/mother” any Family/Group day care homes in CACFP. All family and group day care homes must meet the current day care home definition on or before April 30th to continue participating in CACFP.



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Q 10: How is the sponsor expected to ensure that the location of the child care facility is in the private residence of the licensed provider?

A 10: DECAL is finalizing CACFP policy guidance to issue to all participating sponsors that will include specific guidance on documenting proof of residency.

Q 11: Once Group Day Care Homes become child care learning centers will the CACFP DCH Provider monitoring visit form be used to meet CACFP monitoring requirements?

A 11: No. After the Group Day Care Home is converted to a child care learning center, the sponsor must use the CACFP Child Care Center Review Form.

Q 12: Once Group Day Care Homes become child care learning centers will they be required to qualify for CACFP using the Income Eligibility Statement or can they continue to use area eligibility (school zone).

A 12: No. Child care centers must meet the following eligibility criteria to participate in CACFP: 1) be a private, non-profit organization with tax exempt status, or faith-based organization exempt from needing tax exempt status; or 2) for-profit organization with 25% or more of its license capacity or enrollment, whichever is less, eligible for free or reduced price meals; or 3) for-profit organization with 25% or more of its license capacity or enrollment, whichever is less, receiving Title XX (CAPs funding) and/or classified as Pre-K Category I eligible.

Q13: Will there be any concessions made if there are issues between the former Group Day Care Homes receiving the new child care learning center license?

A13: Issues regarding a child care learning center license will be handled individually and based on the circumstances. Currently, group day care homes receive an annual license after paying the required license fee from DECAL's Child Care Services Unit. Nutrition Services is not expecting any unforeseen issues with this process.

Q 14: If I am a DCH sponsor with Group Day Care homes that will convert to centers, and I do not wish to become an Administrative Sponsor, how do I help transition my homes?

A 14: Nutrition Services is encouraging all DCH Sponsors to identify potential homes that will be impacted by the changes and notify them of their options quickly. Afterwards, direct the homes to DECAL's Nutrition Search Engine to locate an approved



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Administrative Sponsor, and encourage the former home/now center to timely submit all required application information to the Administrative Sponsor. If the center wants to participate in CACFP in agreement with DECAL, direct them to the Administrative Assistant at 404.657.1779 to register for upcoming 2-day Orientation/Program training.

To prevent a lapse in reimbursement, centers will need to be approved with an Administrative Sponsor or with DECAL on or before April 30, 2016.